

A Modern Bluebeard

Arrest of Landru Follows Disappearance of a Dozen of His Fiances

Paris, May 15 (Correspondence of The Associated Press).—Landru, called by some French newspapers the "Bluebeard of Gambais," might take rank among the most celebrated of French criminals, if only a few of the suspicions against him were established. He was arrested a few weeks ago.

The disappearance of a round dozen of his "fiances" is alleged. He is suspected in more than a hundred other cases by husbands whose spouses have deserted their firesides or by families that have lost track of relatives. The police consider most of the hundred additional cases as instances of disappearance that are common in Paris. A few of them present features similar to those of the dozen fiancées and detectives are investigating them.

More than 3,000 women have been lost to sight in Paris during the war. This number is not regarded as extraordinary considering that such disappearances are common in Paris in normal times and that they have been particularly favored by conditions that have prevailed since the mobilization in 1914. A great many families have been broken up or scattered.

Soldiers returning from long absences sometimes have found their homes deserted and in several cases have discovered that their wives, believing them dead, have married again in good faith. In cases of deliberate desertion the unfaithful have, naturally, omitted to give their new addresses.

Horse Holds His Own

Automobile Hacks Not Permitted in Rome

Rome, May 10.—The horse here has not vacated his position to make room for the automobile. There are still thousands of horse-drawn cabs operating in Rome while there is not a single taxicab.

Two reasons are given for this equine superiority. First, there are three thousand cab drivers in Rome, according to the municipal statistics. These exercise a considerable influence in the municipal elections of Rome and as a consequence no motor vehicle concessions are granted. The politicians know that in order to retain these three thousand votes they must be faithful to the horse and an enemy to the "flivver."

Besides the supply of gasoline in Italy is not large and to insure enough for the military needs, it was found absolutely necessary to discourage as much private motor vehicular traffic as possible.

Severe Fighting North of Danube

Between Czech-Slovaks and Hungarian Communists

Vienna, Saturday, June 7 (By the Associated Press).—Severe fighting is in progress between Budapest and Vienna, north of the Danube, between the Czech-Slovaks and the Hungarian communist forces. The Hungarians have crossed the river Neutra and are threatening Pressburg (Pozsony).

The position of the Czechs in Slovakia is more serious, as the Hungarian communists have been stirring up the Slovaks against the Czechs. The Hungarians point out that the Czechs refused to give the Slovaks autonomy and also have not treated them as brothers. They add that for 1,000 years the Slovaks and Hungarians lived together and should continue to do so.

Patriotism is at a white heat in Prague, according to reports from the Czech capital. The pride of the Czechs are legionnaires who have been regarded, especially by the women, as the world's greatest soldiers. The legionnaires trained in France have been doing the best work against the Hungarians. While the Czech soldiers generally are Socialists, there are no indications that they have been tainted by Bolshevism.

The Budapest government has not yet been able to secure an effective connection with the Bolsheviks in the region of Kiev because of the presence of the Poles in Galicia. It is reported that the effectiveness of the Russian soviet army against the Rumanians in Bessarabia is due to the fact that among their leaders are a large number of German officers. It is declared that the German officers have formed an organization to assist the Bolsheviks in the Ukraine.

Peasants Defeated

London, June 8.—Armed peasants who revolted against the Hungarian troops have been engaged in heavy fighting in Western Hungary, which resulted in the defeat of the peasants. An Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Vienna says.

Four thousand peasants assembled Friday near Oedenburg (Sopron), between Zinkendorf and Kollerhof, with the object of displacing the Soviet government in Oedenburg. They were intercepted on the march near Zinkendorf by the communist garrison from Oedenburg, armed with artillery and machine guns. A bloody battle followed and the peasants were driven back and surrounded in Kollerhof by the Red Guards.

After a short siege, it is added, Kollerhof was stormed and many of its peasant defenders slaughtered. The entire Oedenburg district has been declared in a state of siege and a military dictatorship proclaimed.

Tampico, Mexico, May 19 (Correspondence).—The government has completed the erection here of a wireless station which, it is claimed, has a sending radius at night of 2,000 miles.

House Approves Railroad Fund

Democrats Urge Larger Amount But Do Not Press Fight for Amendment

Washington, June 10.—By a vote of 305 to four the house today passed the bill authorizing an appropriation of \$750,000,000 for the railroad administration's revolving fund. Democratic members urged a larger amount, but did not press any amendment for an increase while Republicans declared the fund would be sufficient until later in the year when future needs would be known. The measure now goes to the senate where leaders plan early action.

Votes against the appropriations were cast by Representatives Anthony, Kansas; Ramseyer, Iowa; Woodard, W. Va.; Republicans, and Thomas, Kentucky, Democrat, none of them urged his objections to the bill during the debate which was by the injunction of considerable political discussion.

Chairman Good of the appropriations committee in charge of the bill explained that reduction from the \$1,200,000,000 requested by Director General Hines was decided on by the committee because it was admitted that exact needs of the future were problematical. The new fund, he said, would make a total of \$1,250,000,000 granted the administration since the rail lines were taken over by the government.

Representative Byrnes, South Carolina, and Bryns, Tennessee, Democrats, urged that a large appropriation was necessary to make prompt monthly payment of the administration's expenses, the delay in which they said would adversely affect general business conditions. They also asserted that the smaller amount would increase in the charge on railroad indebtedness that eventually would be paid by the government.

Meanwhile in the senate, debate proceeded on the Cummins bills to restore to the interstate commerce commission immediately its power of supervision over interstate railroad rates. Senator Nelson, Republican, of Minnesota, protested against insertion of an amendment to limit the restoration of supervision to interstate rates. The amendment, he said, would leave intrastate tariffs at the mercy of the railroad administration. Senator Cummins declared that to subordinate the federal government as operator of the lines to the authority of the several States as to intrastate rates would be indefensible.

Senator Pomerene, Democrat, joined in the statement of Senator Cummins and Nelson that the roads should be returned to private control at the earliest moment possible.

Political debate was started in the house when Representative Magee, Republican, of New York, declared the loss from railroad operation was "continuing to increase" and blamed this to "the Democratic policy of drifting instead of acting." The railroad administration having increased wages, he said, should have the "moral courage" to make compensatory freight and passenger rates. Representative Walsh, Republican, of Massachusetts, added, "that many wages are excessive and to save the public treasury we should not hesitate to revise or reduce wages."

Resenting frequent Republican reference to the president's absence from the United States, Representative Hardy, Democrat, of Texas, said that the "Republicans damned everything Woodrow Wilson does" and that "no crime is not laid to the league of nations, but nevertheless the Republicans don't dare to come out in open opposition to it."

Poincaré Appoints Bishops

Nominations for Strasburg and Metz Announced

Paris, May 15.—Appointment by President Poincaré of new bishops for Strasburg and Metz created a remarkably feeble sensation, considering that it was such a radical departure from French policy on religious questions since the separation of church and State.

It was a surprise only to those to whom it had not occurred that France could not interfere with religious institutions in the returned provinces. The Socialists alone manifested resentment. Other anti-clericals appear to have taken the view that if Alsace and Lorraine must have bishops, those bishops should be French rather than German.

According to the French press, the candidates most favored by the government were not approved by the Vatican. Monseigneurs Ruch and Pelt who were given the preference are, however, both ardent patriots.

Siberians Resist Draft

Vladivostok, May 1 (Correspondence of The Associated Press).—Three hundred young recruits in the Siberian army presented a petition to their commanding officer at Tumen, Siberia, asking that certificates be furnished them that they were obliged by the system of conscription to join the army and fight the Bolsheviks. They explained that they had no intention of mutiny but if they fell into the hands of the Bolsheviks they wanted a fair chance for their lives. The petition was refused.

According to reliable information the young soldiers then barricaded themselves in a building not far from Tumen, some of them beginning to shoot. The commanding officer summoned Czech-Slovak troops to his assistance and machine guns were used against the building and the resisting recruits. It is understood that 74 were killed and 149 wounded.

A number of soldiers in the Russian-Siberian army have brothers or relatives in the Bolshevik armies, serving either through duress or choice.

Bolsheviks of Budapest

Spend Money Lavishly on Their Propaganda and Oppress the People

Budapest, May 8 (Correspondence of The Associated Press).—This "red city" still flaunts its color scheme arranged for the May day celebrations. The communists have hoisted the red banner on the castle which is the headquarters of Bela Kun, the big chief of the soviet. Red hunting also waves from the Hotel Hungaria, where the food is hoarded and where the ministers have sequestered themselves with a bodyguard of red soldiers. It is there where it is affirmed they keep their most prized hostages in durance vile.

A brave show is still made of keeping up the government, with much dashing to and fro of ministerial automobiles. There have been more arrests since the counter revolutionists succeeded in blowing up a big munition factory at Ersebitfalva, near here.

The cost of "painting the city red" for the May day celebrations was at first estimated at twelve million crowns but today the supplementary information is forthcoming that the red hunting used in such profusion was only paper "war cloth" which proved a failure for other purposes. So it was dyed red and hung up as it came cheaper than paint.

Feverish activity is going on to win converts to communism by stirring up trouble in Rumania through revolutionary agents who handle enormous sums of money; but also within the country wild efforts are being made to secure adherents. Printing presses are working over time turning out Bolshevik posters of the weirdest kind. Of course they curse capitalism and call upon all to become "voros" or red soldiers.

All bare walls including church fronts, are plastered over with the declaration "Nem Nem Soha" (No, No, Never) which is the slogan for the refusal to abandon the national soil to the Rumanian and the Czech.

The Press Bureau is also active. It is sending out reports signed with the names of foreign correspondents to forged articles, or else it rewrites any copy submitted for censorship. Much ingenuity is shown in several new Bolshevik magazines illustrated with comic pictures and jokes of the proletariat at the expense of the hated bourgeoisie. One magazine which bears the name of months in which it appears shows a fat landlord, or rather an ex-landlord, communing with a snail.

"Ah, lucky beast," he snarls, "thou hast still gotten thy house on thy back."

The magazine even dares to caricature little Bela Kun with his thick overhanging lips, sometimes likened to a bulldog.

The result of such propaganda is questionable, judging by the actions of three communists with whom The Associated Press correspondent rode in a train. They lolled in their comfortable seats, while a humble woman, with a new-born baby in her arms, stood in the corridor for fully six hours. These three men were all the time devouring Bolshevik literature but it never occurred to their humanitarianism to give up a seat to the tired woman. They evidently knew adversity but it had not taught them charity.

All this propaganda work gives employment to a large number of persons, and there are special training schools for apt candidates. Recently, a group of young men speaking several languages went to the Foreign Office to seek employment, and they were told that the only work that was open was to act locally as spies or to go to Bucharest, Vienna or Paris and carry on propaganda work there. This is in contradiction to the promise made by the ministers to the Americans that they would not attempt to disseminate their ideas abroad if they were left alone at home.

Among the original converts who have been converted back again are the men of the ironworkers union who have formed a secret guard of fourteen thousand members to protect Budapest if a massacre of the bourgeoisie be attempted.

Two women of American origin, Marcella Lind Jelinek, a singer, and Mrs. Isidore C. Shazsa, (formerly Mary Wasserman of New York) who is related to the Seligman banking family, have filled their homes with homeless friends so as to escape the "communizing" of their apartments.

Count Apponyi's house is quite filled. After he left, his personal clothes and the family linen was requisitioned to the last stitch despite the protests of his daughters who had remained behind with a German governess. When the latter made a complaint to the local red guard commissioner, he denied any responsibility for the requisition.

In many cases red guards are just plain thieves—they enter houses and take what they fancy, and the Soviet is unable to control the lusts and passions which its propaganda has stirred up. It is, nevertheless, true that there are many decent fellows among the red guards, whose reputation must suffer from the black sheep.

Improving Commercial Relations With Mexico

Mexico City, May 19 (Correspondence).—The Chamber of Commerce here is planning to organize a trade excursion of Mexican merchants to the United States and preparing to receive similar missions reported to be coming from Cleveland, New York and various Southern commercial centers.

London, May 16 (Correspondence).—The treasury has authorized the transmission to persons and firms resident in enemy territory of statements of their accounts. Payment of money to enemies remains prohibited and statements of accounts sent to them must be accompanied by notice that persons and firms in enemy territory will not be permitted to dispose of funds or securities held for their account in this country at the date of the beginning of the war.

New German Army

Plan is Being Advocated Throughout Germany to Draft 500,000 Men Yearly, and Reestablish Old Military Principles

With the American Army of Occupation, May 17 (Correspondence of The Associated Press).—German military experts are publishing in German periodicals various suggestions for the organization of a new German army.

One plan is proposed by Major General von Francois who commanded a corps in the Argonne opposite the United States army last fall. His ideas have been republished in numerous German newspapers and magazines. He proposes that 500,000 men should be drafted to service under arms each year, one-half on April 1 and the other 250,000 on October 1. Every man capable of performing manual labor would be subject to military duty for one year beginning at his twentieth year.

The 500,000 annually drafted would be used to defend the country from attack and preserve order in the interior, he urges. All others capable of working would be drafted also on April 1 or October 1, but after receiving a short course in military training, they would be placed in labor battalions to be employed in socialized branches of industry which have been taken over by the government. These men would thus be engaged in productive activity which would pay for their own support and contribute to that of the armed forces.

General von Francois advocates an army drawn up along the lines of the old model, saying:

"In the training and development of men democratic innovations should be avoided, and the old military principles should be maintained. One object should be the establishment of the highest possible standard of discipline. The authority of the officers as a class must be restored. The means of enforcing discipline must also be reestablished by reviving the military regulations, the court martial system, and the obligation to salute. The civilian penal code is not well adapted for use in the army. Activities of the general staff and of the war department must not be curtailed."

The general said the Germans insist upon being permitted to organize their new military establishment in the foregoing manner. If necessary, he said, they should refuse to sign the peace treaty rather than relinquish any part of this program.

Cleaning Up Vice

Tampa Women Organize Purity League

Tampa, Fla., June 12.—Five hundred Tampa women have formed the Woman's Protective League and say they propose to clean up organized vice by direct action—that they propose to undermine its support.

By the establishment of a sort of moral credit bureau this organization proposes to furnish any woman a confidential report on the "double life" of her husband if she wants one. The inquirer does not even need to give her own name in making the inquiry; she may designate a postoffice box address or any place where an agent of the league may deposit the report on its investigation.

Organizers of the bureau say that seventy of their number have pledged, to do the investigating work in the open while the remainder will work in secret.

"So many have such old reproaches for husbands," said one of the chiefs, "they can't work openly because these husbands won't let them. Therefore they will work secretly." The theory of the league is that if a man has not been walking the straight and narrow path one of the five hundred will know about it—or at least can find out.

New Zealand Aborigines Return From the War

Auckland, New Zealand, May 2 (Correspondence of The Associated Press).—Th battalion of Maoris, New Zealand aborigines, who fought in the Gallipoli campaign and afterward in France, has been welcomed home with a great feast, haka (war dances) and tangi, or lament for those who fell in battle.

The Acting Prime Minister, Sir James Allen, told them, "You Maoris hold a proud position. You have not one conscript." From the time of its formation early in the war the Maori battalion was maintained at a strength of 1,200 entirely by voluntary enlistment.

Great quantities of mutton, beef, pork, and other food had been baked in earthen ovens for the occasion. About 2,000 Maoris in all shared in this feast. There were several poi (a native delicacy) dances.

The tangi was a scene of much emotion. The soldiers sat by tribes encircled by sorrowing natives. Led by their chiefs, the mourners grieved with low, wailing chants for those of their race who will never return. All the treasured heirlooms of the tribes had been brought from their safe-keeping for the welcome. There were jade ornaments, mats, children's head-dresses and beautiful kilts. The chiefs of the various tribes delivered speeches of welcome couched in florid South Sea language, after which there was a haka by the famous Arawa tribe and the speech of welcome by Sir James Allen.

Argentina and Mexico

Mexico City, May 19 (Correspondence).—Encouragement and enlargement of commercial relations between Argentina and Mexico was the object of recent conferences between Luis Cabrera, Secretary of the Treasury, and Ricardo C. Acuna, Argentine consul to Mexico. The question of securing ships is reported to have been the most important subject discussed.

Let America Do It

Attitude of Rich Armenians Respecting Relief Work in Their Country

London, May 19 (Correspondence of The Associated Press).—Relief work in Trans-Caucasia where there has been untold suffering should be taken from hands of the Americans as far as possible and wealthy Armenians, of whom there are many, should be compelled to bear some of the financial burden in the opinion of an American observer who has submitted a report to official quarters in London. He does not attempt to belittle what the Armenians have suffered and will suffer, but suggests that Armenians who are in a position to help their countrymen have depended too much on relief from America.

In Tiflis and in the Ervan republic Armenians themselves would prefer that Americans handle all relief work but, the report adds, that is impossible with the number of Armenians in that section of the world. The relief committee has been compelled to employ many Armenians.

The report indicates that the Armenians and Georgians of influence, the Armenians in particular, are more interested in entrenching themselves before the final peace decisions than in looking after relief. An instance is given of this in respect to railway equipment. Georgians paint out Armenian lettering on Armenian cars and appropriate them and the Armenians retaliate in the same manner. As far as actual ownership is concerned neither had a right to the cars in the first place as they belonged to Russian railroads.

Anarchy in Hungary

Soviet Rule in Buda Pest War a Carnival of Crime

Budapest, May 7 (Correspondence of The Associated Press).—What may be the last days of the "Red" Soviet republic here are fraught with such terror, hunger, mental misery, uprooting of family ties, hearbreaking partings, flights, arrests and legal lootings that the majority of Hungarians are praying that such days may never come again. They live like people caught in a burning house with the firemen squirting benzine on the only escape ladder.

One way out may possibly be provided by the Czech and Rumanian armies, who, though national enemies of the Magyars, are now hailed as saviors. The atmosphere is "charged with fears and alarms worse than those felt on any battle front. A contagious fear like that which prevails when an army is in rout is spreading even to foreigners whose persons are comparatively safe from arrest owing to the wishes of Bela Kun, the Communist leader, and other ministers to save themselves from the gallows when the grand collapse comes.

When fathers and sons flee the country to evade arrest or to join the counter-revolutionists, their wives and mothers whisper at the parting: "Let us hope we may meet in happier times."

When the correspondent of The Associated Press has had occasion to explain his nationality the listener, whether Red Guard, peasant, or civilian, has remarked with envy: "What a fortunate man you are, to be an American."

He would invariably ask whether it would be possible to reach America and whether foreigners, former enemies, would be permitted to land on her shores. Peasants, who refuse to furnish food to Budapest or other cities because they are hostile to communism and want shoes and clothes more than paper money, of which they have plenty, gladly enough sold meals and supplies to the correspondent on the strength of his American nationality.

The city of Budapest which a few weeks ago had a plentiful supply of eggs—people almost lived upon them and potatoes—is now without eggs, because of the obstinacy of the peasants. A great many of the stores have been closed for lack of goods to sell, or because they have been requisitioned by the Soviet.

The most saddening impression the visitor receives is that of a country in dissolution, being stripped day by day, mercilessly and inexorably, of its riches, to benefit nobody. The relatively pleasant, orderly and bountiful life that existed in Hungary a few months ago, when its neighbor Austria was starving, is gone for many years to come.

"If anyone wants to be convinced of the futility of re-making the world in a single day with pet theories, he should now visit Hungary," was the remark made by an American naval officer. It is estimated that half a million of Hungary's best citizens have been obliged to flee from their homes and wander across the frontiers to strange lands.

There are many stories of their attempts to save their lives and property some of which are like Arabian Nights tales. It is calculated that some 3,000,000,000 Kronen worth of bonds, gold coin, jewelry, plate, paintings and works of art have been saved from the clutches of the Red Guards and smuggled across the frontiers by blockade runners, afoot, on bicycles, autos or peasant carts. Within a few weeks, there has grown up a system by which large percentages of the value of such property, often amounting to 50 per cent have been given for its safe transportation to Vienna or Agram. Not a few communists took advantage of such methods of getting values out of the country. Many jewelers, however, stored their stocks under sidewalks or hid them in holes dug in their cellars in preference to trusting them to blockade runners.

Washington, June 10.—The first of the hearings on the proposed protective tariff legislation was held today by the house ways and means committee, with representatives of several industries that sprang up during the war seeking to present their arguments.

Injustice To Missionary

American in Korea Not Given Fair Trial by Japanese

Tokio, May 5 (Correspondence of The Associated Press).—The Rev. E. M. Mowry of Mansfield, O., an American Presbyterian Missionary, had no lawyer to represent him in the court of Pyeng Yang when he was convicted recently and sentenced to six months penal servitude for sheltering Korean agitators in the independence movement. The trial was held after one day's notice to the accused and neither he nor his friends who were in court watching but taking no part in the case were notified until after the trial that they could have asked for and obtained a postponement.

These facts are stated by the Rev. Samuel A. Moffett who has charge of the American Presbyterian missionary at Pyeng Yang. The Rev. Mr. Moffett has called them to the attention of the Japanese authorities at Pyeng Yang and forwarded a statement of the facts to the American consul at Seoul.

The Rev. Mr. Moffett attended the hearing in the case of the Rev. Mr. Mowry before the district court and made a detailed report of the proceedings in which he stated that he called upon Mr. Mowry, then under arrest, on April 10. A detective informed Mr. Moffett that Mr. Mowry probably would be sent to Seoul but on April 14, both Mr. Mowry and Mr. Moffett were notified that Mr. Mowry would be put on trial the next morning.

The Rev. Mr. Moffett's transcription of the evidence shows that the Rev. Mr. Mowry told the court that he was a teacher of the Union Christian College and principal of both the Boys' and Girls Grammar schools at Pyeng Yang and that he had taught there since 1911. He said that he had admitted to his house five Korean students for two days in March after the beginning of the independence movement. One of these had been his secretary for six years and was so engaged until he was arrested by the Japanese.

The missionary had given him money for school expenses for five years. The others were pupils he had taught. The Rev. Mr. Mowry told the court that he had heard that the Christians and students had held an independence meeting at the Boys' Grammar school, that he had nothing whatever to do with it but heard they had read a declaration of independence, raised the Korean flag and marched down the streets shouting "mansei" (long live Korea). The missionary declared that he had heard that the police were going to arrest the students but that when the boys came to his home they did not tell him why they wanted to stay there, did not say they were in hiding from the Japanese and that he told them that he could not protect them if they were doing anything they should not do.

"Would you not think that in coming to the house of a Westerner there was something up?" asked the judge through an interpreter.

"Koreans often slept at my house and I could only guess at it in view of the times," replied the Rev. Mr. Mowry.

"Did you know that they secretly distributed announcements and that the police were hunting for them?" asked the judge.

"I knew the police were trying to arrest such men," said Mr. Mowry, "but did not know these boys had done it. I guessed that the police were hunting for them. They said nothing to me about fleeing from the police. I did not hide them as fugitives. I made no effort to conceal them and I told them I could not do so."

"If I had been informed that the police were trying to arrest them and had concealed them it would have been wrong; but I did not know that they were criminals. If anyone had come to arrest them and I had concealed them would have been wrong. Concerning the independence movement, I had nothing whatever to do with it and kept free from it and, as an American, told them that I could have nothing to do with it and could give no advice."

"The procurator in demanding a sentence of six months imprisonment and addressing Mr. Mowry before the court said, 'on one side your taking employes and students who had no place to flee to was in a sense a manifestation of human kindness.'"

The wicker basket was then put on Mr. Mowry's head and face and he was led off by a policeman. The Rev. Mr. Moffett visited the office of another procurator who admitted to him that Mr. Mowry was not notified of his trial until the day before it was held and that he was not asked whether he wanted a lawyer. Mr. Moffett complained that the trial was brought off so suddenly that Mr. Mowry's friends had no chance to engage a lawyer.

The procurator told him they could have obtained a postponement and Mr. Moffett replied that "we were given no such information," that he had no opportunity to confer with Mr. Mowry about engaging a lawyer and that in the interview he had held with Mr. Mowry in jail he was strictly forbidden to talk with the prisoner about his case.

The procurator told Mr. Moffett that they had a right to appeal but the friend of the convict missionary pointed out that if the appeal were not successful, the Rev. Mr. Mowry would have suffered by reason of the fact that he did not have a lawyer on his first trial.

Shimonoseki, Japan, May 2.—A Korean peer, Viscount Soheishun, who has just arrived from Fusan, Korea, told a Japanese journalist that during the recent demonstrations in Korea he received about fifteen threatening letters a day because he issued a warning to Koreans that none of the Western powers would interfere to support the demonstrations against Japan and that the agitation would have a very bad effect upon future relations between the Japanese and Koreans.

The Viscount added that anti-Japanese feeling was strong throughout Korea.